
Education Committee

HB 2216

Brief Description: Encouraging the inclusion of local history information in Washington state history and government curriculum.

Sponsors: Representatives Zeiger, Farrell, Johnson, Haler, Haigh, Stonier, Moscoso, Tarleton, Ryu and Bergquist.

<p style="text-align: center;">Brief Summary of Bill</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Encourages school districts to include information on local history in curriculum on Washington state history and government.

Hearing Date: 1/20/14

Staff: Barbara McLain (786-7383).

Background:

Under high school graduation requirements established by the State Board of Education (SBE), students must complete a course in Washington state history and government. In 2011 the SBE changed the requirement to permit districts to offer the course in either middle or high school.

Current law states that any such course must consider including information about the culture, history, and government of American Indian peoples. Study of the Washington state Constitution is also required.

The state learning standards for 7th grade Social Studies address various topics related to Washington state history and government. Otherwise, the content of the course is established by local school districts.

Summary of Bill:

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

School districts are encouraged to include information on local history in curriculum on Washington State history and government, which may include visits to local landmarks and museums, readings on local history, and interaction with local historical societies.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.